

LOUISIANA BIRD RECORDS COMMITTEE

REPORT FORM

1. English and Scientific names: *Audubon's Shearwater* (*Puffinus lherminieri*)
2. Number of individuals, sexes, ages, general plumage (e.g., 2 in alternate plumage): 1
3. Parish: *Plaquemines*
Specific Locality: *ca. 35 km SE mouth Southwest Pass*
4. Date(s) when observed: *6 Sep. 2015*
5. Time(s) of day when observed: *08:40*
6. Reporting observer and address: *Van Remsen, LSUMNS*
7. Other observers accompanying reporter who also *identified* the bird(s): *Charles Lyon, David Muth, Rob Dobbs, Danny Dobbs, Doug Liles, Willie Matthews, John Sevenair*
8. Other observers who *independently identified* the bird(s):
9. Light conditions (position of bird in relation to shade and to direction and amount of light): *Sunny, excellent*
10. Optical equipment (type, power, condition): *10x40 binos*
11. Distance to bird(s): *perhaps to within 100 ft.*
12. Duration of observation: *at least 10 minutes*
13. Habitat: *open Gulf, some Sargassum, water depth ca. 500 ft. Habitat shots for general area in my eBird list: <http://ebird.org/ebird/view/checklist?subID=S24921743>*
14. Behavior of bird / circumstances of observation (flying, feeding, resting; include and stress habits used in identification; relate events surrounding observation): *I spotted and identified the bird as it was sitting on the water. Seas and wind fairly calm, so that the bird was not flying not surprising. However, the bird also seemed a little dilapidated and was being harassed persistent by a Pomarine Jaeger. It dove to escape rather than flying away. I suspect that the jaeger could tell the bird was not in good condition and may have been trying to kill it.*
15. Description (include only what was actually seen, *not what "should" have been seen*; include if possible: total length/relative size compared to other familiar species; body bulk, shape, proportions; bill, eye, leg, and plumage characteristics. Stress features that separate it from similar species, *or for species that are known to hybridize frequently,*

stress features that help eliminate possible hybrids): See attached photos. A medium-sized “black”-and-white shearwater; all white below except for distal portions of undertail coverts, some portion of flanks, and some dark at sides of breast. Dorsally all dark brownish with some worn areas in upperwing coverts. Some pale above and in front of eye. Bill slender, grayish.

16. Voice: **Silent**

17. Similar species (include how they were eliminated by your observation): **The only serious contender at the time of observation was Manx Shearwater, but we could see that the distal portions of undertail coverts were dark, and that it had a pale area above eye. We did not (and I still have not) consider any distant extralimital taxa.**

18. Photographs or tape recordings obtained? (by whom? attached?): **Yes, attached. Charlie Lyon undoubtedly got better photos with his better equipment.**

19. Previous experience with this species: **None**

20. Identification aids: (list books, illustrations, other birders, etc. used in identification):

a. at time of observation:

b. after observation:

21. This description is written from:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	notes made during the observation.	Are notes attached?	see eBird list
<input type="checkbox"/>	notes made after the observation.	At what date?	
<input type="checkbox"/>	memory		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	study of images		

22. Are you positive of your identification? If not, explain: **Yes**

23. Date: **5 Feb. 2016**

Time:

24. May the LBRC have permission to display this report or portions of this report on its website? Yes

If yes, may we include your name with the report? Yes

